

Message Text

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17

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SCCT-01 SY-05 (ISO) W

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O 240828Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8741

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 2243

NAIROBI PASS ASST SECTY DAVIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, CASC (SMUTS, BARBARA)(SMITH, KENNETH STEPHEN)

(HUNTER, CARRIE JANE)

SUBJ: KIDNAPPED AMERICANS: THE PRESS

REF: STATE 147472

1. CONCUR DEPT'S SUGGESTIONS CONCERNING HANDLING THE PRESS
OUTLINED REFTEL.

2. WE HAD ALREADY AGREED HERE THAT UPON RETURN OF STUDENTS, MR.
HUNTER AND DR. HAMBURG, IT WOULD BE MOST FITTING FOR MR. HUNTER
TO CHAIR A PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE KILIMANJARO HOTEL WHERE HE,
MR. SMITH AND DR. HAMBURG HAVE BEEN STAYING THIS PAST MONTH.
THOSE AT PRESS CONFERENCE WOULD INCLUDE THE STUDENTS, DR. HAMBURG,
MR. SMITH AND, IF THEY WISH TO BE INCLUDED, DEREK AND JANE
BRYCESON (JANE GOODALL).

3. MY DUTCH COLLEAGUE AND I HAD ALREADY AGREED WE WOULD NOT RPT NOT
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ATTEND THIS PRESS CONFERENCE. WE WANT THE FOCUS TO BE ON THE

FAMILIES AND THE STUDENTS. WE ALSO BELIEVE MR. HUNTER COULD ANSWER QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE PAYMENT OF RANSOM AS WELL AS PERHAPS MAKE A STATEMENT CONCERNING PRP MEMBERS DETAINED BY TANGOV, WHICH DUTCH AND AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS WOULD NOT RPT NOT WANT TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH IN ANY WAY. WE WILL SUGGEST PARAMETERS ON WHAT HUNTER MIGHT SAY THIS SUBJECT.

4. NEEDLESS TO ADD, I WILL EMPHASIZE IN ANY QUERIES TO THIS EMBASSY THAT U.S. GOVERNMENT DOES NOT RPT NOT CONDONE THE PAYMENT OF RANSOM NOR YIELDING TO ANY OTHER DEMANDS BY KIDNAPPERS.

5. ON IF ASKED BASIS, WE HAVE CONSIDERED REPLYING TO PRESS QUERIES ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

QTE THE AMBASSADORS OF THE NETHERLANDS AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN DAR ES SALAAM TODAY (JUNE 24) SAID THE THREE STUDENTS WHO WERE HELD IN CAPTIVITY SINCE BEING KIDNAPPED FROM THE GOMBE STREAM RESEARCH CENTER ON THE NIGHT OF MAY 19-20 WERE RELEASED UNHARMED. THE THREE ARE CARRIE JANE HUNTER AND STEVEN SMITH, BOTH AMERICANS, AND EMILIE BERGMANN, A DUTCH CITIZEN.

THE THREE STUDENTS WERE RETURNED TO KIGOMA, TANZANIA, AT (BLANK) O'CLOCK LOCAL TIME ON JUNE 24. THEY ARE REPORTED IN GOOD HEALTH AND ARE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN DARES SALAAM LATE TODAY.

AMBASSADORS JAN VAN DEN BERG OF THE NETHERLANDS AND W. BEVERLY CARTER, JR., OF AMERICA EXPRESSED THEIR RELIEF AND JOY OVER THE RELEASE OF THE STUDENTS AND EXPRESSED THEIR DEEP APPRECIATION TO ALL GOVERNMENTS AND PARTIES CONCERNED IN BRINGING ABOUT THE SAFE RETURN OF THESE THREE YOUNG PEOPLE. UNQTE.
CARTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, INSTRUCTIONS, WELFARE & WHEREABOUTS, PRISONER EXCHANGE, THE PRESS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975DARES02243
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750221-0812
From: DAR ES SALAAM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750618/aaaaaqkb.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 147472
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <06 OCT 2003 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KIDNAPPED AMERICANS: THE PRESS
TAGS: PINS, CASC, (SMUTS, BARBARA), (SMITH, KENNETH STEPHEN), (HUNTER, CARRIE JANE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006